



Office of Representative Heath Shuler

Representing North Carolina's Eleventh Congressional District

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Rep. Shuler Opposes Latest Unfair Trade Agreement ***Peru FTA Copies CAFTA Provisions that Promote Off-Shoring U.S. Jobs***

Washington, D.C. – Representative Heath Shuler voted against the latest unfair free trade agreement that would threaten American jobs when it was brought to the House floor today.

The Peru Free Trade Agreement, H.R. 3688, duplicates many of the core provisions and text of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) and Central American Free Trade Agreement (CAFTA). It includes provisions that promote the off-shoring of U.S. production and jobs and helps foreign corporations avoid longstanding Buy American and anti-offshoring policies.

“We in Western North Carolina have seen first-hand the results of unfair trade agreements like NAFTA and CAFTA. Rather than working for a truly fair trade agreement that protected American workers and the environments of the U.S. and Peru, this free trade agreement continued the CAFTA model,” Rep. Shuler said. “I will continue fighting for fair trade agreements that create jobs in the U.S. and protect America’s working families.”

As the U.S. faces increasing threats from imported foods, the Peru Free Trade Agreement also included CAFTA-like provisions that will limit food safety standards and border inspections on imported food.

“We need to be looking out for the safety of the American people,” Rep. Shuler said. “This bill will increase the risks we are facing from unchecked imported foods.”

The House of Representatives passed the Peru Free Trade Act despite these concerns. It now awaits action in the Senate.

“The people who support these CAFTA-like free trade agreements always say that there will be winners and losers, but the only people who have won are the big corporations. It is time for us to pass some trade agreements that allow the working families of Western North Carolina win,” Rep. Shuler concluded.

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